GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:457
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2005
PERFORMANCE OF INDIAN SPORTSMEN
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Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for poor performance of Indian Sportsmen in International Sports events particularly in Olympic games;

(b) the amount of expenditure incurred in Olympic games by the Government of India and Sports Federations; (

(c) the number of players participated in Olympics 2004;

(d) the average expenditure per player and coach in Olympics 2004;

(e) whether the Government of India will consider the proposal not to send any Indian sportsmen in any of the Olympic games for participation for the next 10 years unless they are trained intensively and fit for the competition;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the details of the action plan of the Government to improve the performance of Indian Sportsmen in International events?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) The performance of Indian sportspersons in major international events is steadily improving. In 1996 and 2000 Olympics, India won only a bronze medal. No medal could be won in 1984 and 1988 Olympics. In the last Olympic Games held at Athens in 2004, Indian sportsperson Major (Now Lt. Col.) R.V.S. Rathore won a silver medal in shooting. This is the first silver medal won by an individual sportsperson since India`s independence. Again in the disciplines of Archery, Shooting and Weightlifting Indian sportspersons were close to medals. In the disciplines of Athletics, sportspersons created new national records.

(b) Government had sanctioned a total amount of Rs.66.08 lakhs to the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) towards participation of Indian Contingent in Olympic Games, 2004 cleared at Government cost and approved the following items of expenditure:-

i) Out of Pocket Allowance @ USD50 per person/day to players and their coaches and Out of Pocket Allowance @ USD40 per person/day to supporting personnel
ii) Ceremonial Dress @ Rs.10,000 per person for Indian Contingent and Rs.7,500 per person for 2 youth campers
iii) Competition Kit @ Rs.2,500 per player
iv) Hiring of Rowing Boat - USD10,000/-
v) Hiring & allied expenses for Yachting Boat - USD 18,700/-
vi) Practice Ammunition for Shooters - USD5,000/-
vii) Boarding and Lodging @ Euro 150 per person/day and Air Passage cost for 2 personal coaches/training partners. Subject to conditions that these persons are not being paid assistance for coaching fee, etc. from any of the other Government Schemes.

In addition, assistance for excess baggage for sportspersons of Archery, Hockey, Shooting @ 20 kg for both ways and for the remaining sportspersons @ 10 kg for both ways of the Indian Contingent was also sanctioned.

Government of India incurred expenditure on the above items required for the Olympic Games. As such National Sports Federations were not required to incur expenditure on the above items in Olympic Games. In case, they incurred any other expenditure from their own sources for the Games, the details of such expenditure are not available with Government.

(c) Government had approved participation of 75 players in 14 disciplines.

(d) The average expenditure of about Rs.57,000/- is incurred by Government for participation in Olympic Games on 75 players, 31 coaches and 6 supporting personnel.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) Government of India supports and supplement the efforts of National Sports Federations. Government of India, in addition to providing sports infrastructure and is taking following steps to improve the performance of sportspersons in the international events:

i) Finalization & implementation of Long Term Development Plans (LTDPs) for various sports disciplines in consultation with the concerned National Sports Federations, former international sportspersons and sports/scientists experts.
ii) Provision of equipment and scientific support to sportspersons.
iii) Intensive coaching of the players by Indian and foreign coaches in coaching camps.
iv) Intensive training abroad to the teams as well Indian Coaches.
v) Financial assistance to concerned Federations for participation of sportspersons in international tournaments.

vi) Scholarships to outstanding boys and girls are provided for nutritious diet, sports equipment support and to pursue sports as a career. Scholarships are also given for research in sports.
vii) Assistance for purchase of equipment, scientific support and training and participation within the country and abroad is proved under the `Scheme relating to Talent Search and Training` and the `National Sports Development Fund`.
viii) Launching of Champion Promotion Initiative to encourage, motivate and support young talents.